Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 NSCE-00 PM-09

L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 EB-11 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 RSR-01

SSO-00 /080 W

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O 121300 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8270

UNCLAS ROME 2908

E. O. 11652 N/ A TAGS: PINT IT

SUBJ: ANDREOTTI SURVIVES TWO VOTES OF CONFIDENCE

- 1. / BEGIN SUMMARY/: ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT HAS WON TWO CONFIDENCE VOTES IN SENATE ON BILL RELATING TO TENURE AND PERQUISITES OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND HAS DECLARED IT WILL GO TO MAT WITH FURTHER CONFIDENCE VOTES WHENEVER NECESSARY TO PUSH MEASURE THROUGH. SENATE EXPECTED TO ADJOURN APRIL 13 FOR EASTER. / END SUMMARY/.
- 2. IN SENATE LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 11, ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT IN SECRET BALLOT FAILED BY ELEVEN VOTES TO ALTER TEXT OF ONE ARTICLE IN BILL WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE GOVERNMENT TO RESTRUCTURE SALARIES AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS. AFTER RECESS, ANDREOTTI ACCUSED OPPOSITION OF PLAYING POLITICS WITH SERIOUS AND MUCH-NEEDED LEGISLATION, AND OF LACKING COURAGE TO POSE ITS CHALLENGE TO GOVERNMENT IN CONSTITUTIONALLY PRESCRIBED FORM OF DIRECT MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE. HE THEREUPON HIMSELF IMPOSED OPEN VOTE OF CONFIDENCE UPON NEW BID BY GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE ARTICLE IN QUESTION. GOVERNMENT WON VOTE OF CONFIDENCE BY FOUR VOTE MARGIN. BUT STILL LATER, ARTICLE AS AMENDED FAILED TO PASS IN SECRET BALLOT, (I. E., NOT A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE) BY FIVE VOTES.
- 3. SENATE MAJORITY LEADERS GATHERED MORNING APRIL 12, TOGETHER UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH ANDREOTTI AND FORLANI, TO ASSESS SITUATION. AT MEETING'S END, PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION SPADOLINI DECLARED THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING DEFEAT OF ARTICLE, GOVERNMENT WILL NOT WITHDRAW BILL BUT WILL CONTINUE WITH CONSIDERATION OF OTHER ARTICLES, "POSING CONFIDENCE WHENEVER IT APPEARS OPPORTUNE AND NECESSARY." LATER IN MORNING, IN DEBATE UPON SUBSEQUENT ARTICLE, ANDREOTTI IMPOSED AND WON SECOND VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, AGAIN BY FOUR VOTES. SENATE SOURCES EXPECT MORE SUCH CONFIDENCE VOTES BEFORE SENATE RISES FOR EASTER, PROBABLY FRIDAY APRIL 13. VOLPE

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

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